

NANOSTRUCTURED LIQUID BEARING

5 A liquid bearing is disclosed wherein a droplet of liquid separates a first surface having a plurality of nanostructures from a second surface which may or may not be nanostructured. In one embodiment, the liquid droplet is in contact with the nanostructures on the first surface and the second surface in a way such that friction is reduced between the first and second surfaces as one or both surfaces move laterally or rotationally. In one illustrative
10 embodiment, the first surface of the bearing is a surface of a housing in a gyroscope and the second surface is a nanostructured surface of a mass adapted to rotate within the housing. Thus situated, the rotating mass moves with very low friction thereby permitting, for example, the manufacture of very small, highly precise gyroscopes.